

sidering and racking his brain in vain,
 fancying
 there was a double meaning in this
 speech, and
 at last said, "Ma foi! pour celui-la, je ne
 le comprends pas."

Every time anything is made for the
 King's
 children, a double quantity, *dit-on*,
 is made
 and sold by Madame de Polignac and
 Madame
 d'Harcourt. They have twelve dozen
 shirts a
 year.

Madame de la Vaupalière, hearing
 that an
abbaye was vacant, wrote to the Bishop of
 Orleans,
 who had *la porte-feuille des benefices*, in
 favour of
 her sister, who had been abbess
 somewhere before.
 This was her letter: "Monseigneur, je
 viens d'apprendre que l'Abbaye du Parc-aux-Cerfs
 est vacante,
 et je vous supplie de la donner & ma
 soeur. Elle
 en est digne, ayant déjà fait ses
 preuves; et je
 suis sûr qu'on lui trouvera toutes les
 qualités
 requises pour mettre ce couvent sur le
 meilleur
 pied possible."

Now this *Parc-aux-Cerfs* is a house
 near Ver-
 sailles, where Louis Quinze had a
 seraglio, and she
 put this phrase by mistake instead of
Font-aux-
Dames. The King and Bishop having
 entertained

themselves with this letter, the prelate
wrote a
polite answer, assuring Madame de la
Vaupalidre
that he had no doubt of her sister's
qualifications,